

# FY 22 Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies - Schneider

Thank you for your interest in pursuing Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Community Project Funding (CPF) through Rep. Schneider's office. Please make sure you have read all of the information below before submitting your request.

The deadline for submitting Community Project Funding requests to our office is April 9, 2021. This limited timeline is due to external deadlines that our office does not control. Please do your best to ensure your submission is made on or before April 9, 2021. You may submit multiple requests but please submit them individually.

The following accounts are eligible for funding and will be subject to account-specific eligibility criteria and matching amounts:

1. Department of Transportation - Local Transportation Priorities
2. Department of Transportation - Airport Improvement Program (AIP)
3. Department of Housing and Urban Development- Economic Development Initiative (EDI)

More information on these specific accounts is included below:

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION -- LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES

Local Transportation Priorities are highway and transit capital projects eligible under title 23 and title 49 of the United States Code. Eligible projects are described under Section 133(b) of title 23, United States Code. Tribal and territorial capital projects authorized under Chapter 2 of title 23, United States Code, are also eligible. All projects must be:

- a. Capital projects or project-specific planning/design for a capital project.
- b. Supported by the state or local government that would administer the project. Inclusion on a

Statewide

Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or Transportation Improvement Plan (TIP) would satisfy this

- requirement.
- c. Administered by public entities.

The Subcommittee will not fund activities that are administrative in nature even if they are eligible expenses under the statutory citation. These include general operating expenses, and activities required under sections 134 and 135 of title 23, United States Code.

## DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION -- AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM (AIP)

AIP community project requests may be used for enhancing airport safety, capacity, and security, and

mitigating environmental concerns. All projects must be:

- a. AIP eligible in accordance with sections 47101 to 47175 of title 49, United States Code, and FAA policy and guidance.
- b. Supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials.
- c. Administered by an airport and/or airport sponsor.

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING & URBAN DEVELOPMENT (HUD) -- ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (EDI) CPF from this account may be used for economic and community development activities, including land or site acquisition, demolition or rehabilitation of housing or facilities, construction and capital improvements of public facilities (including water and sewer facilities), and public services. Funds may also include planning and other activities consistent with the underlying authorization for the Community Development Block Grant program within HUD. EDI community project requests are not eligible for the reimbursement of expenses for activities already undertaken (including debt service or debt retirement). All projects must be:

- a. Supported broadly by local stakeholders, including residents, businesses, and elected officials.
- b. Administered by governmental or non-profit entities, including public housing agencies, as well as tribes and tribally designated housing entities.

Email Address: \*

jkannegiesser@northernilfoodbank.org

Name of Organization Requesting Funding: \*

Northern Illinois Food Bank

Full Address of Organization Requesting Funding: \*

273 Dearborn Court, Geneva, IL 60134

Point of Contact Name:

Jeannine Kannegiesser

Point of Contact Phone Number: \*

630-443-6910

Point of Contact Title: \*

Director of Corporate and Foundation Giving

Which account are you requesting? \*

- Department of Transportation - Local Transportation Priorities
- Department of Transportation - Airport Improvement Program (AIP)
- Department of Housing and Urban Development - Economic Development Initiative (EDI)

Name of Project \*

Relocation of North Suburban Food Bank Distribution Center

Amount of Federal Funding Requested: \*

750000

Total project cost: \*

1,600,000

Can the project obligate all appropriated funds within 12 months after enactment? If not, what would be the expected date of obligation? \*

Yes

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Please provide a description of how the requested funding would be used and how it would help you serve IL-10: \*

Northern Illinois Food Bank is planning to relocate our North Suburban Center from its current location at 440 Keller Drive Park City, IL 60085 to a larger facility during the next 12-18 months. We have identified a potential location in Waukegan and are in process of determining feasibility and timing. This proposal is written for the preferred option that we will move forward in Waukegan. The new facility will increase our capacity for volunteer engagement and food processing and position the Food Bank to engage the community more fully in the work of solving hunger for our neighbors in Lake County and across our entire 7,000 square mile service area. As a member of Feeding America, Northern Illinois Food Bank serves 13 counties in Northern Illinois, which includes the part of the IL-10 district in Lake County.

During the first eight months of FY21, we have already provided more than 70M meals, a 40% increase over the same time period the previous year. We are projecting distribution of 100M meals this year. The Food Bank's mission is to provide nutritious food and resources for our neighbors, with dignity, equity and convenience, through partnerships and innovation.

The proposed new North Suburban Center will provide up to 45,000 square feet of space (compared to 13,000 at our current facility). This relocation will require the Food Bank to invest \$673,000 in improvements to install a 1,500 square foot cooler and 1,500 square foot freezer, install racking, and purchase appropriate equipment for pallet moving and food production. The Food Bank will also build out and furnish office space. Operating expenses are estimated to be \$900,000 annually, which is an incremental increase over current expenses of \$530,000. We would use the requested \$750,000 in federal funding for the building improvements and help cover first year of expenses at the new North Suburban Center, investments that will also be supported by contributed revenue from corporations, foundations, organizations, and individuals.

Compared to our current Park City Location, the new Waukegan center will provide increased space for safe cold and frozen and dry food storage and will increase our capacity for food processing and distribution for agencies and programs. The Waukegan site will accommodate more office space for staff and skills-based volunteers and room for agency shopping and direct-to-neighbor distribution. The new facility will enable the following:

- Reduction in off-site storage costs due to the space limitations we are experiencing at the current facility
- 35% increase in agency shopping at the center through additional appointment times and broader product selection – which will support our member agencies better.
- Incremental food processing of 3-5M pounds annually
- Operational savings in our Mobile Pantry Program if the site can be used for direct-to-neighbor distribution
- Ability to engage more community and corporate groups in our mission through volunteerism and donations

This Fiscal Year to Date, the Food Bank has provided 13M meals in Lake County, IL, the primary county to be served with the new facility. Lake County includes parts of the IL-10th district. We are committed to continuing to work to serve our neighbors throughout our entire service area and the benefits of this work accrue to a variety of stakeholders in the IL-10 district, including our network member food pantries, youth and senior sites, and the more than 50,000 neighbors we serve in Lake County through this strong and committed network. This project will also engage many of our key partners and stakeholders throughout its implementation and completion, offering opportunities for neighbors, volunteers, donors, community

organizations, local retailers, foundations and corporations, elected officials, and more to get involved in hunger relief-work in our community.

Northern Illinois Food Bank has served food insecure residents of Northern Illinois since 1983. We take responsibility for meeting the meal gap in every community across our service area by sourcing and distributing food through member agencies and program sites. Public support for continuing highly effective charitable food distribution ensures that our neighbors will have access to nutritious food at all times, even if their personal financial situation is challenging them to cover expenses for all their basic needs.

Northern Illinois Food Bank works closely with Feeding America to understand the landscape of need across our entire service area, through the annual assessment of the county and sub-county food insecurity rates provided in the annual Map the Meal Gap study. Projections from Feeding America indicate that the COVID-19 crisis has increased food insecurity in our service area by as much as 45%.

The Food Bank's four food distribution centers, where we safely store and pack food are vital to the Food Bank's ability to continue to meet the meal gap across our service area and to serve every neighbor in need. Upgrading our North Suburban Center facility will build our capacity to provide high quality fresh foods for our agencies and direct food distribution programs. Improving the physical plant where our staff and volunteers are essential workers within the food assistance network will help the Food Bank to engage more of the public in our response, increase our capacity for food processing and distribution, and enable the future of food banking to take shape in Northern Illinois.

Estimated project start and completion dates: \*

July 1, 2021 - June 30, 2022

Please provide a justification for why this project is a good use of federal taxpayer funds: \*

Northern Illinois Food Bank's mission is to provide nutritious food and resources for our neighbors, with dignity, equity and convenience, through partnerships and innovation. The Food Bank's new Strategic Plan: UNITE is centering our neighbors' experiences, using human centered design to innovate within our network and programs, to better serve the diverse members of our community who experience food insecurity, which can impact anyone at times during their lives. Investing in the Food Bank's capacity will help us accomplish our strategic goals to serve all our neighbors facing food insecurity while continuing to meet the meal gap. We operate out of four distribution centers located in Geneva, Joliet, Park City, and Rockford to serve a network of member agencies (food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and group homes) and program partner sites (youth and senior programs, including CACFP and SFSP, Mobile Pantries, and our online food pantry My Pantry Express).

The Food Bank manages federal programs, including TEFAP, SFSP, and CACFP, ensuring that these government resources are accessible to everyone across our service area. We also operate SNAP Outreach services to assist residents of our service area and River Bend Food Bank's service area with accessing the benefits for which they are eligible.

We work effectively with government agencies at the federal, state, and local level to ensure that we are making the best use of resources that are available for our mission. In the past year, we have managed increased donations of federal dollars through local allocations of CARES and FFCRA legislation and work effectively with the county staff and elected officials who allocate this funding. We have also handled more than 25M pounds of food provided through the Coronavirus Farmers Assistance Program from July 2020 through March 2021.

Northern Illinois Food Bank is an effective organization and takes our responsibility to the public seriously, earning us high ratings for financial transparency from Guidestar. We are proud that 97% of contributed resources go directly to programs that serve our neighbors. We are a Better Business Bureau accredited charity. For 38 years, we have connected a strong and vital network of individuals, businesses and institutions concerned about food insecurity, collaborating to sustain an effective response to the persistent need for food assistance.

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Please describe community support for this project, including support from state and local officials and community organizations. Include contact information when possible. Please upload letters or other evidence of support where provided below. \*

We are attaching several letters of support from collaborators in our work in the attachment:

- IL State Senator Adriane Johnson - 217-782-8181
- Brenda O'Connell, Lake County Community Development - 847-377-2331
- Mayor Donny Schmit Fox Lake, IL - 847-587-2151
- Kelly Gallego, North Chicago Community Partners - 855 Skokie Hwy, Lake Bluff, IL
- Gregory White, LEARN Charter School Network - 773-584-4300

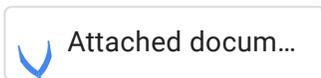
Have you submitted this request to another Member of Congress or Senate office? If yes, please list here. \*

We are submitting an application to both Rep. Underwood (IL-14) and Rep. Schneider's (IL-10) offices, as this project will help serve neighbors in both districts. We hope that one or both of them will choose to advance the project.

Has the request been submitted to another Subcommittee or Committee this fiscal year? If yes, which one(s)? Please indicate if this request has been or will be submitted to the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee as part of the surface transportation reauthorization process. \*

No, we welcome the Representative's office to suggest if this request would fit better under a different committee or subcommittee's guidelines.

If applicable, please attach any other relevant documents here. Otherwise, leave blank.



FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES ONLY: Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds already committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction, operations, and maintenance? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds?

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FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES ONLY: Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and NEPA category of action (if applicable)?

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FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES ONLY: Type of project eligible under 23 USC 133(b):

Highway

Bridge

Transit

Bike/Pedestrian

Other: .....

FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES ONLY: Where is the project in the construction process?

- Planning and Environmental Review
- Final Design
- Right of Way
- Capital Purchase or Lease (including bus purchases)
- Construction
- Other: .....

FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES ONLY: Was the project on a State, tribal or territorial Transportation Improvement Plan (STIP) or a metropolitan transportation improvement plan (MTIP) as of 12/31/2020? If yes, please provide a link to the plan.

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FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES ONLY: Please provide the STIP or TIP ID Number and specify which plan (ex. North Carolina STIP, New York Metropolitan Transportation Council TIP) the ID number comes from.

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FOR LOCAL TRANSPORTATION PRIORITIES ONLY: Please provide a history of federal funding for the project, if any. Include both formula funds and any discretionary grants.

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FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ONLY: Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds already committed for forecasted costs related to operations and maintenance? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds?

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FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ONLY: Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) category of action (if applicable)?

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FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ONLY: How will the project contribute to the airport's disadvantaged business enterprise goals?

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FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ONLY: Has the project received previous Federal funding? If so, how much and which public law (e.g., appropriations act or authorization act) provided it?

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FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ONLY: Is the project AIP-eligible?

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FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ONLY: What is the airport's code (should be 3 letters)?

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FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ONLY: Has the airport submitted a grant application for this same project to FAA? If so, when?

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FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ONLY: Would the project increase or decrease air traffic?

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FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ONLY: How would this project impact aviation safety?

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FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ONLY: How would this project impact environmental risks?

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FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ONLY: Does the airport and airport sponsor support the project?

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FOR AIRPORT IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM ONLY: Are there any stakeholders - such as residents that live near the airport, state or local officials, state department of transportation officials - that oppose the project?

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FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ONLY: Does the project have other public (federal, state, local) and/or private funds already committed to meet match or cost-share requirements for costs related to construction, operations, and maintenance? If so, what is the source and amount of those funds?

Northern Illinois Food Bank has not secured revenue specific to this project as yet, however our Board has approved the project within our Strategic Plan: UNITE and we anticipate they will commit the Food Bank to the project when our FY22 budget and strategic priorities are approved in June 2021. Our philanthropy team raises funds against our approved budget and will seek support from a variety of stakeholders in the coming months to support this program. Over the past year, we have seen significant increases in financial support for our mission and will work to retain these donors and secure adequate contributed revenue to support this project to meet the matching requirements for federal funding.

The Food Bank collaborates with more than 900 member agencies and programs, including 173 in Lake County. This network consists of local food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters and group homes and youth and senior sites and our direct distribution programs like My Pantry Express and Mobile Pantries. Our role is the acquisition and distribution of nutritious groceries, including food that we rescue from local food wholesalers, distributors, and retailers. The Food Bank and our network members save valuable food resources from going to waste, while supporting the economic and physical well-being of our neighbors who live on very low fixed incomes, earn low wages that do not stretch far enough, or who are unemployed either temporarily or due to long-term disability.

The Food Bank has successfully completed capital campaigns to support building our West Suburban Center in 2011, an addition to that building in 2015, the build-out and opening of our South Suburban Center in 2018, opening a Food Bank operated food pantry in Rockford in 2019, and we are planning our fundraising campaign for Strategic Plan: UNITE, which will include this project among others. We are attaching our FY20 Annual Report as evidence of our financial sustainability.

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FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ONLY: Does the project require an environmental review? If so, what is the status and/or outcome of the environmental review and NEPA category of action (if applicable)?

We do not believe the project will require an environmental review as it involves an existing facility. We will simply be modifying interior spaces to support the Food Bank's operations.

FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ONLY: Is the project primarily a service, new construction, rehabilitation, land or site acquisition, planning, or economic development project?

Site acquisition.

FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ONLY: Does the project primarily benefit persons of low-income or tribal communities?

Yes

No

FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ONLY: Does the project impact beneficiaries of HUD's rental assistance programs (owners, public housing agencies, service providers, or tenants)?

The Food Bank does not collect information about which of our neighbors receiving help from our network also receive help from HUD's rental assistance program but we hope that neighbors are accessing all of the federal resources available to them so they can pursue their personal and professional goals and work towards self-sufficiency.

**FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ONLY: Who are the community partners participating in this project?**

In Lake County where this facility will be located, the Food Bank works with the following community partners to distribute food:

- 58 food pantries
- 10 soup kitchens
- 5 group homes/shelters
- 7 senior sites
- 42 Backpack program sites
- 51 youth program sites (CACFP and SFSP)

In addition to this traditional network of food assistance agencies and programs, the Food Bank also works with community organizations to provide Mobile Pantry and Pop Up Market distributions, through which we can reach additional neighbors in need. The Mobile Pantry Program serves 150-250 households at each distribution. Pop Up Markets, introduced in 2020 amid the early months of the pandemic, serve 1,000 or more households (these have taken place at College of Lake County, Grant High School, Christo Rey, and Six Flags Great America). Mobiles and Pop Ups, like most of our member agencies right now, use a drive-through model, which allows for efficient and low-contact food distribution. We also collaborate with North Chicago Community Partners in their work within the schools – helping to supply the school based food pantry and health and wellness fairs with food. One of our staff serves on the Board of the Alliance for Human Services giving us opportunities to collaborate with other human service providers.

The Food Bank's My Pantry Express Program, our online food pantry, enjoys strong partnerships with Walmart, Forrestal School, Rosalind Franklin University. We collaborate with Advocate Condell and are beginning to collaborate with Northwestern Medicine to screen patients for food insecurity and refer them to appropriate nutrition recommendations. We currently offer a twice monthly Rx Mobile Pantry at the Round Lake Library for patients at Condell who screen positive for food insecurity.

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**FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ONLY: If the project includes new construction or land or site acquisition activities, does it comply with local zoning requirements?**

Yes

No

FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ONLY: Is the project included or supported by an identified priority area within the community's HUD Consolidated Plan? If yes, please provide a link to the plan.

The Food Bank's project is expected to be located in Waukegan, IL, a geographic priority for HUD investment and aligns with the City's consolidated plan under Goal 1: CD-2 Public Services: Invest in community services that promote and enhance targeted populations to improve quality of life" and Goal 5 CD-1 "Improve the City's public facilities and infrastructure through rehabilitation, reconstruction, and new construction."

<https://www.waukeganil.gov/DocumentCenter/View/5238/FY-2020-2024-Consolidated-Plan-Part-1->

FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE ONLY: Is the project intended to address issues related to climate change or resiliency, civil unrest, or inequities?

This Food Bank's work is inherently equity work as food insecurity is impacted by societal inequity – this encompasses racial inequities, socioeconomic disadvantages, poverty, food access (food deserts and transportation), health and nutrition inequities, etc. In improving our operational capacity and efficiency with a new North Suburban Center, we will better be able to serve our neighbors, our agency and program partners, and work together with community members to both solve hunger and address the inequities that exist in our society.

The proximity of our identified potential site to the community of North Chicago would bring additional food resources to bear on the food desert identified in this community. We note that Waukegan and North Chicago have higher numbers of individuals who identify as Black or Hispanic, and these are populations that are twice as likely to experience food insecurity compared to White neighbors, according to USDA and Feeding America studies of the disproportionate impact of food insecurity.

Do you affirm that, to the best of your knowledge, the information you have submitted in this form is truthful and accurate? \*

Yes

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